Text

 1 ある晩、夜中に**目がさめて**、ふと見ると、彼女が恋辺に立っていた。 2 蛍光灯を消した暗い病案に、駐車場の明かりが窓から入ってきて、彼女のシルエットを壁に映している。 3 椎名は熱心に星空を見上げていた。

⁴ **今にしておもえば**、彼女はそのとき……。

⁵ 僕の運命を変えるため、星を、うごかしていたのかもしれない。

6「星の配置を変えて、だれかの運命を変える ことは、もうしないだろうと**おもっていました**。 ⁷でも、最初の入院で化学療法をためしてい たとき、先輩のホロスコープを見ながら、私は、 決意したのです。⁸先輩の運命を**変えてみせる**。

9 絶対に死なせない**って**」

10 ホロスコープ**とは**、その人がこの世に生まれたときの、惑星と星座の位置を表したものだという。

目がさめて: 目が覚める and 目を 覚ます merely refer to waking up from sleep, while 起きる and 起こす tend to imply both waking up and getting out of bed.

今にしておもえば: literally "if I think about it now"; or more naturally: "in retrospect", "thinking back on it now"

おもっていました: Japanese has no perfect tense, so the \sim ている form is used for both continuous and (as here) perfect.

変えてみせる: attaching 見せる ("show") to a ~て verb either means to perform the verb for the purpose of showing someone else, or (as here) implies strong emotion or determination.

って: って is an informal substitute for either と (as here), という, といって, or といった. At the end of a sentence, it marks dialogue or thought.

とは: shows that what follows is a definition of what precedes とは. Also in sentence #23.

¹ Once, I awoke in the middle of the night and happened to see her standing by the window. ² In my dim hospital room, the fluorescent lights switched off, the glow from the parking lot came in through the window and cast her shadow on the wall. ³ Shiina was staring intensely into the night sky.

⁴ Thinking back on it now, on that night....

⁵ She may have been moving the stars with the intent of changing my destiny.

6 "I had thought I would never again change the stars' alignments to change someone's fate.
7 But when they tried chemotherapy during your first stay in the hospital, while I was looking at your horoscope I made my decision. 8 I'd change your fate. 9 I swore to myself I wouldn't let you die."

¹⁰ She tells me a horoscope is something that shows the positions of the planets and constellations at the time of one's birth into this world.

¹¹ 僕はラジオを消した。¹² しずまりかえった 病室に、僕たちの**息づかい**がある。

13 遠くから、窓の<u>ひらく</u>音が**聞こえてくる**。
14 ^{りゅうせいぐん} を見るため、どこかの病室の にゅういんかんじゃ 入院患者が、窓を開けたのだろう。

15 「先輩のホロスコープでは、土星がいくつかの星と重要な関わり合いをもっています。
16 **いずれ**もプ**トレマイオス**が定めたメジャーアスペクト。17 土星の存在が、**場を支配して**いるように見えます。

18 土星は、古星術の歴史において、<u>不幸</u>を
つかさどる星なんです。¹⁹ <u>あらゆる</u>悪いことは、
この星のせいだとおもわれていました。²⁰ **もっ とも**、それは画一的な見方で、成長をうなが
す試練の星という側面もあるのですが……。

²¹ でも、なぜ、土星は、不幸の<u>象</u> 徴 になってしまったのでしょう?

- 息づかい: づかい here comes from 遣う ("use", "employ"):
 - 例 言葉遣い wording
 - 例 気遣い consideration
 - 例 筆遣い brushwork
- 聞こえてくる: the ~てくる form shows not so much movement across physical space as it does the idea that the sound was not heard at first. 見えてくる ("come into view") is also common.

いずれ: same as どれ or どちら

- プトレマイオス: Ptolemy. The Japanese is an apparent transcription of his Greek name, Ptolemaios.
- 場を支配する: a phrase meaning "call the shots", "run the show", or generally exert control over a situation or location.
- もっとも: at the beginning of a sentence, means "however" or "although". As an adjective, もっともな means "plausible" or "likely". Not to be confused with the other もっとも (最も), which transforms an adjective into a superlative form (see sentence #22).

- ¹¹ I turned off the radio. ¹² Our breathing breaks the room's hushed silence.
- ¹³ The distant sound of a window opening reaches my ears. ¹⁴ I suppose a patient in some other room opened his window to watch the meteor shower.
- ¹⁵ "In your horoscope, Saturn has several crucial links to other stars. ¹⁶ Each is a major aspect as defined by Ptolemy. ¹⁷ It appears as though Saturn's presence is in a position of control over the others.
- ¹⁸ "Throughout the history of astrology, Saturn has been the star that governs adversity. ¹⁹ All sorts of bad things were thought to be the fault of this star. ²⁰ This is a stereotypical view, however, and there is a side which sees it as a star of challenges to encourage growth....
- ²¹ "But why did Saturn end up as the symbol of adversity?

22 それは、望遠鏡のない時代、太陽系の惑星で、土星が**もっとも**遠い星だったからです。
23 ^{こだい} ひとびと 古代の人々にとって土星とは、世界の果てであり、限界、終わり、終着点、そして、死を れんそう 連想する星だったのです。

 24 ……私には、**わかります**。 25 <u>飢饉</u>によって、 かぞく 家族や、愛するものたちが亡くなるとき、それを不吉な星のせいにする気持ちが……。 26 そうしなくては、だれかのせいにしなければ、心が、 ばらばらに砕け散る、そのようなおもいが……。

27 先輩のホロスコープにおいて、土星が太陽にかげりを**もたらし**、木星の守護を<u>打ち消して</u>います。²⁸ 先輩の運命を変える**には**、この惑星を、**どうにかしなくて**はいけない……。²⁹ そうおもいました」

もっとも: A superlativizer:

- 例 最も高い山 the highest mountain
- 例 最も多い原因 the most common cause
- とは: previously seen in sentence #10. Here, shows that what follows is the concept or significance (as opposed to the physical reality) of Saturn.

わかります: The three common conjugations of わかる:

- 例 わかった In response to hearing instructions or new information, confirms that you have absorbed the knowledge.
- 例 わかる Shows that you can relate to or comprehend an emotional or other abstract concept.
- 例 わかつている In response to being told something you know, informs the other person that you are already well aware of what he is telling you. Be careful; this one can easily sound cheeky or rude.
- もたらす: "take" or "bring", often used in connection with negative outcomes.
- には: after a plain verb, "(in order) to [verb]". Similar to ために.
- どうにかしなくて: the "transitive" form of どうにかなる (seen in part 10), どうにかする means "do something about".

²² "The answer to this is that in the age before telescopes, among the planets in the Solar System, Saturn was the most distant. ²³ To the people of ancient times, Saturn stood for the edge of the world, the limit, end, terminus, as well as being the star associated with death.

²⁴ "...I know what it's like. ²⁵ That impulse, when you lose your family or those you love in a famine, to place the blame on an unlucky star.... ²⁶ If you don't do that—if you don't blame someone—your heart cracks and shatters, under the weight of those thoughts....

²⁷ "In your horoscope, Saturn casts a shadow over the sun and dispels the protection of Jupiter. ²⁸ To change your destiny, I have to do something about this planet.... ²⁹ That's what I thought."

Vocabulary

Beginner

¹ 夜中 midnight, small hours

¹ 窓辺 by the window

² 壁 wall

² 映す project, cast

⁷ 試す test

9 絶対に absolutely

10 表す show, express

15 幾つか several

20 成長 growth

²³ 古代 ancient times

²³ 世界 world

23 限界 limit

²⁵ 亡くなる die, lose one's life

²⁶ ばらばら in pieces

Intermediate

² 蛍光灯 fluorescent light

² 駐車場 parking lot

7 入院 hospitalization

⁷ 決意する resolve, determine (to)

¹³ 開く open

¹⁵ 関わり合う share a connection

18 不幸 misfortune, adversity

¹⁹ あらゆる all, everything

20 試練 trial, ordeal

20 代的 side, aspect

²¹ 象 徴 symbol

²³ 運想する associate (mentally)

²⁴ 不吉な unlucky, ominous

²⁷ 打ち消す negate, counteract

Advanced

³ 熱心な passionate, zealous

⁷ 化学療法 chemotherapy

¹² 静まり返る fall silent

12 息遣い breathing

16 定める define, ordain

20 画一的な uniform, stereotypical

20 促す spur, prompt

²² 望遠鏡 telescope</sup>

23 終着点 terminal point

²⁵ 飢饉 famine

²⁶ 砕け散る shatter, crumble

²⁷ 陰り shadow, cloud

⁷ 守護 protection, guard